

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, the Disclosure stands objected to for informalities. Applicants traverse this objection. The “errors” cited by the Examiner do not appear anywhere in the Specification as asserted. For example, neither page 6, line 23, nor page 8, line 8, contain any language similar to the language quoted by the Examiner. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takizawa et al. (U.S. 5,795,686). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection because the rejection does not assert that the cited reference teaches (or suggests) pattern-forming portions, first shield portions, and second shield portions, where the first shield portions are smaller than the pattern-forming portions, and the second shield portions are adjacent to each other and equal in size to the pattern-forming portions, as in claims 1 and 6 of the present invention, as amended.

The outstanding rejection merely asserts that Takizawa teaches light-shielding films of several sizes. The rejection does not assert, however, that two of such light-shielding films are formed where one is smaller than the regularly arranged patterns, and the other is adjacent itself and the same size as the arranged patterns. Independent claims 1 and 6 of the present invention though, have been amended herein to better clarify the limitations of the first and second shield portions, and their respective sizes with regard to the pattern-forming portions, and Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection at least on this basis. Support for these amendments can be found at least at page 10, line 21 through page 13, line

23 of the present Specification. Claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled to avoid potential overlap of the subject matter of amended claim 1.

Claims 1-6 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takizawa in view of Dehli (U.S. 5,638,156). With respect to claims 1 and 4-6, Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the reasons discussed above. Dehli is cited merely for teaching a mosaic arrangement, and not for teaching or suggesting two distinct shield portions, one of which is smaller than a pattern-forming portion, the other of which is adjacent to each other and equal in size to the pattern-forming portion. Accordingly, a *prima facie* case of obviousness does not exist according to the requirements of Section 2143.03 of the MPEP. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are also respectfully requested.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application, including claims 1 and 4-6, is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Customer No. 24978

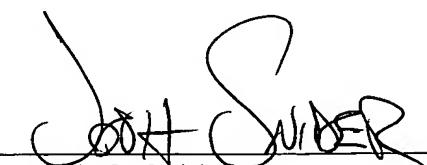
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